

FEAR OF TSUNAMI

Pagadian folk flee homes in panic

By Vincent A. del Cris
JPA/ABS-CBN News

PAGADIAN CITY.—Hunted by the tsunami that swamped this city nearly 20 years ago, thousands of residents in coastal villages of Pagadian fled their homes in panic today as they prepared for their homes, fearing the worst was coming again.

They were alerted by sirens and by reports of an unusually low tide on the Ilijan Bay and a fairly small, 4.7-magnitude quake that struck Davao City and Zamboanga City.

There was no tsunami by tonight as what happened elsewhere in Asia during the Christmas holidays, when the tsunami caused some 200,000 deaths.

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Epic waves swept away the weakest, 50,000 kids

From page 40

ruined towns of Mindanao, beyond which was a black tide of dense water.

Japan as superpower

And now as this with its money and industry in disaster zones, Japan is seen as a power in the disaster aftermath in the Asian and Southeast Asian region.

Japan's aid efforts in disaster zones, Japan is seen as a power in the disaster aftermath in the Asian and Southeast Asian region.

Largest military mission

Japan has sent 15,000 aid workers to assist in the disaster aftermath in the Asian and Southeast Asian region.

Makers of noodles, cement make waves in relief, rehab

From page 41

have dragged down market stocks but the prospect of rebuilding has lifted them in some cases.

With international donors pledging nearly \$1 billion to help survivors and aid agencies such as UNICEF, the Japanese government is helping survivors in some of the Asian and Southeast Asian region.

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By Philip Padilla

A bill has emerged from the Philippine House of Representatives that would allow the government to sue private citizens who sue the government for damages.

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Court orders AFP to produce missing colonel

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SPORTS

The largest circulation newspaper in Southeast Asia

Editor: Baldemar C. Hernandez

Alaska foils SMB, nails No. 4 ranking

By John Herrera

MKE Gomez provided the spark Alaska needed to nabber San Miguel Beer, 96-81, and secure a tie-to-beat edge in the Green Generation PBA Philippine Cup last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

Gomez fired 11 of his team-high 26 points in the third, nine of them coming from the three-point range as the team got back into a sluggish start on the way to justice. The No. 4 spot after rankings phase of the elimination round.

The team, on a streak after winning a 19th straight game, will battle the much-awaited PBA All-Star Game with a chance to face the team that is the wildcard game while the team has the No. 1 in the league, the Los Angeles Clippers.

"We picked it up in the third and bounced our energy back," said Alaska coach Tim Cone.

"That spot by Mike [Gomez] was great and worked for us," added Cone, whose team had to overcome a pair of starting performers from Jimmy Dwyer and Dwyer Jr.

Alaska, despite an early slump in the opening minutes, scored in 26 points while the Clippers, on the other hand, the game in the first half, dropped down to the San Miguel Beers, scored with 26 points and eight rebounds.

"I'm really proud of my players," said Cone. "It was a real comeback. It only shows that the team chemistry has already developed, making us a unit."

San Miguel also qualified for the final, finishing off a late San Miguel Beer charge with two accurate shooting as the team of the Los Angeles Clippers dropped to 13 points on top of 12 rebounds and six assists.

San Miguel's Gomez and Alaska, from other teams, scored in double figures. Jeffery Garcia registered with 28 points. Scottie Hughes dropped in 13 while Dwyer Jr. and Brandon Calley added 11 and 18 markers, respectively.

Twenty-four points



CRUICK Bright and Oliver (left) of San Miguel Beer in action for possession with Jeffery Garcia and Brandon Calley (left) of Alaska during the game last night.





Advocacy by deeds, not just by words



While the objective of Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales to stop illegal logging is commendable, the action goes beyond words. The 50-year-old has written ("We Never Surrender to the Church We Sided With") and will be for 100 years. But we know it really that the rules on forest management and information are only good on paper unless there is the political will to implement them. On our leaders, politicians and the military have that political will? Do our community and church leaders have the determination and courage to monitor illegal logging activities and make sure information programs are faithfully performed?

While there is much action in the last of them and proper levels: Quezon, Aklan and elsewhere, who is to blame? Corruption—yes, poverty—not so

recently, and here is why.

An article ("Not Golden") in the Nov. 3, 2003 issue of *Time* Magazine reports that in Java, the locals are resisting foreign-owned mining companies. There is nothing illegal about the existence of these companies. Yet the locals had, at the time the article was written, been able to stall at least 10 mining investment projects worth \$1.4 billion.

The locals of Indonesia, Peru—very much like the Pilipinos—also protest. The town has a population of 16,000, 85 percent of which does not have electricity, possible to mining was widespread, paved streets. These interviewers live on less than \$1 a day. They benefit little from the funds their government makes with exploitation. They realize that the trade-offs are too heavy, particularly the pollution of their landscape

from the open-pit mines. More importantly, they want to preserve their heritage, their way of life. Their desire has prompted at 90 percent of the voters of Indonesia to reject Mardian in 2000.

So, going back to our own experience, is it poverty of the desire to make quick money? Was the money that trickled down to the people of Quezon enough to compensate for their tragic loss?

Let us draw from the experience of Archbishop Rosales. In the many years since he was deposed, how many illegal loggers has he arrested? Were they the top bosses or just the hangers-on? Were many convictions were secured too, what were the punishments?

—**MR. LINA A. SANTILLANO, Makati City, editor, makatig@pib.com**

Corrupt Makati parking aides

A MAKATI parking aide, 28 (15-20), asked me if I knew where our car was parked in front of my establishment, Organic Market. I told her that I didn't belong to any of our customers. She then proceeded to tell me that I needed to pay for a new truck and I needed to tell her the driver probably didn't see my aide (in an hour's time, three aides changed) and would pay anyway when he or she returned.

Within 15 minutes, the new truck was on the scene accompanied by "enforcer" GLE Eche. I tried to stop them and threaten them with the car, telling them that it was legally parked (at the right place and

time) and informing it just because in Makati parking aide was around when it got there would be illegal. If none looked it was illegally parked. I said I'd call the Apia Land Inc. Security to which he loudly declared, "Do your best, we're talking to the car and you can't do a thing about it?" When a public servant loudly declaring his power over the community (there was a crowd by now) he meant to serve. Please tell me where is the spirit of service to the community?

I asked for his ID and he wouldn't give it and instead told me to look for it. I stood in front of the new truck, demand-

ing that he divide from taking the car away and show his ID, but he instead ordered the driver to get out of the car.

Many were horrified: race was given for the status of the natural calamities in our country and South Asia and here are two (supposedly) public servants behaving the tyrants as if the rights and lives of ordinary citizens don't matter to them. I've seen these tyrants run out at 4:30 p.m. when the parking lot was almost full.

Why will we, how will our country progress when corrupt tyrants are allowed to lord it over law-abiding citizens?

—**MARIA PADINO DE SATERA**

Is AFP-RSBS acting in good faith?

I AM writing for the benefit of the readers who might be in the same predicament as I am at the moment.

I bought a property in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, the developer of which is AFP-RSBS. Before I bought the property, I presented my intention to apply for Pag-ibig refinancing as soon as I could comply with all the Pag-ibig requirements for a housing loan. The developer requested me to submit all the requirements needed for Pag-ibig refinancing. The letter stated that I have to pay P15,000—includes of the Pag-ibig processing fee—for the release of the documents needed, such as final plan, Transfer Certificate of Title, building and electrical permit, etc.

Last November, I expressed again my intention to apply for Pag-ibig refinancing but I received a letter from the AFP-RSBS stating that it would instead come up with a scheme later

able to both parties rather than release my amount to Pag-ibig. Until the time of this writing, I haven't received the scheme that they promised me. My last check for my monthly contributions with the AFP-RSBS was due last Dec. 28, 2004.

Had the developer released my application to Pag-ibig, it could have been approved with in a month or two from the date of submission. Besides, I doubt whether the AFP-RSBS scheme is comparable to what Pag-ibig offers, such as MFI, low loan rates, home improvement loan, etc.

There have been Pag-ibig member since 1995. I believe that it is my right and prerogative to avail of the housing benefits due my member of the institution. I am calling on the reader to share their thoughts on this.

—**KETER KABA, e-mail: ketterkaba@pib.com**

Teach civics early

WILL world and economic reform come? Not with the kind of politicians we have. The traditional politicians will never change; neither will the present generation of voters, whose principle is "happy is my god" no matter what old dogs are like.

Like the likes of Jose Rizal's time, the politicians will never want to see the masses educated

and progressive, so that they can say in power.

Early education is the answer to our present ills. Teach civics early—in Grade 3 or 4. That said it right: "The youth is the hope of my homeland."

—**EDUARDO DE LA PUENTE, 1508 Alibon Road, Sta. Cruz, Manila**

MTRCB lax on filmfest entries

WITH REGARD to the Metro Manila Film Festival movie "No... Happy Together," I think that the "PG-13" rating given by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board was too mild. The movie explored themes on homosexuality and prostitution.

There was even one instance when the reviewer "C" was explicitly asked, as other movie reviewers like Quinsu recently made with this Aquino's review in a "friendly" manner not to mention the numerous bad reviews of Quinsu and other male actors. The images of two topless men, standing in bed, could be very shocking to young minds and could encourage them as well to experiment in such sexual acts.

Of course, the movie's posters and plot also

did not show graphic depictions of homosexual acts. Thus, the PG-13 rating is unfair to unsuspecting parents who would have a hard time explaining to their young children the nature of homosexual relations, or even heterosexual (homosexual) relations between friends.

I hope that the MTRCB would not exempt MMFF movies from its strict standards, and subject these Filipino movies under the same scrutiny and judgment as other "regular" movies. That is the purpose of the MTRCB's existence: to give moviegoers the public, so that parents may better discern what is appropriate for their children.

—**MARTIN SCHMIDT, San Juan, Metro Manila**

Still, there's hope

THE CHRISTMAS season and the New Year always bring a feeling of hope. But the present condition—the "new normal" log prices of prime commodities, rampant wages, growing unemployment and continuing poor development—points to another difficult year for us, Pilipinos. If the ARROJO administration and our country's lawmakers wish to make 2005 different, they should take a look at the pending issues and challenges that stand out in 2004. Some of these:

- The Hacienda Luisita Massacre—Those who till the land have the right to just wages and a share of the land. How many more will have to be massacred before a genuine land reform program is implemented in our country?

- The chronic fiscal deficit—The poor cannot bear additional tax burdens and other anti-people measures to solve the economic crisis. How much more foreign debt will have to be shouldered by the present and future generations before the government sincerely acts on reducing the roots of poverty and underdevelopment?

- The oil price, power and water rate hikes—But from recurring lower prices and free competition, oil deregulation and the privatization of water, power and other strategic industries have led to a spiral of price hikes and stretched the capacities of business plans. When will the government prioritize the delivery of affordable services over the profits of big business?

- The Angulo de la Cruz

Embarrassing New Year celebration

THE YEAR 2004 was a black year of miseries and battle against for our poor nation and the world. First, the terrible deaths of thousands of Pilipinos in Quezon and neighboring provinces due to the massive devastation of our typhoon. Then came the unexpected death of a good man, Fernando Poe Jr., and of a daughter of Senator Jose de Venecia. And then the earthquake and the tsunami that ravaged South Asia.

These events in the last month of December 2004 should have moved all of us to reflect on the fragility of life before the wrath of Mother Nature. The national government should have declared a period of mourning in deference to the hundreds of thousands who perished in these tragedies.

But it was appalling to see the latest disaster victims to

behave like—Pilipino there are in danger and countless civilians have been sacrificed in the 128-bed "new normal," which is clearly a cost for all and other strategic resources in emergency situations. The tragedy many more will have to be killed before President Maangal Arroyo levels out call to withdrawal support from the internal and subject 18 war?

- The deadly flash floods and landslides—The government must stop, rather than promote, massive logging and large-scale mining by scaling back Arroyo's executive orders and passing a law that will negate the Supreme Court's declaration of the Mining Act of 1995 as unconstitutional.

- The death of Fernando Poe Jr.—The second richest of the mass in the history of the country can only be a source for every for the Arroyo and the ruling elite. It was an expression of the people's desire for genuine public service in the face of government neglect and massive corruption.

Indeed, we can only hope that the year 2005 will turn out brighter and happier for Pilipinos. But this can only happen if the people's interests will be placed above the interests of the foreign and local ruling elite. The reversal of destructive economic policies, just wages, genuine land reform and other legitimate demands of the poor are long overdue.

—**AMER DURAL, secretary general, President of the Philippine People's Movement (PPM), 879 Kila, Quezon City 1301**

most the victims by most of our working people. President Maangal Arroyo proceeded to make merry in luxury binges. And I could only watch in disgust simply that young women dancing in TV programs day after day, while thousands in northeastern Luzon and all over in South Asia were going hungry homeless and sick, still grieving for their dead, many of whom were missing.

And making matters worse, wealthy Makati City staged a most spectacular fireworks display that seemed to say together with drunken revelers: "The dead be damned! Come on, let's party!"

I'm not being a killing, but no, Pilipinos, must learn how to act properly under certain circumstances and situations.

—**ALAN ARROYO, 8100 City, e-mail: gattito@pib.com**



A FORGON national identification card is shown among the 16 terrorist suspects arrested on Friday.



After the rescue of a woman, a police officer from the Western Police District and the CIDG rest on a stretcher at the station of Tubbataha Island.

16 terror suspects fall

The raid was conducted after two months of surveillance.

The arrested individuals were in the vicinity of the Manila International Airport in Quezon City. The list of the suspects includes: 1. **Arnel Arnel**, 2. **Arnel Arnel**, 3. **Arnel Arnel**, 4. **Arnel Arnel**, 5. **Arnel Arnel**, 6. **Arnel Arnel**, 7. **Arnel Arnel**, 8. **Arnel Arnel**, 9. **Arnel Arnel**, 10. **Arnel Arnel**, 11. **Arnel Arnel**, 12. **Arnel Arnel**, 13. **Arnel Arnel**, 14. **Arnel Arnel**, 15. **Arnel Arnel**, 16. **Arnel Arnel**.

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Tan pleads ...

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Bishops seek clemency for mutineers

The bishops are seeking clemency for the mutineers who participated in the 1986 EDSA Revolution.

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Witness directs Nida slay reenactment

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SuperCountdown

38 days 'Till
it's over!

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Text or your feedback to: super@inquirer.com.ph
(02) 7040-4000 (ext. 2040)Julio Pineda
Creative Director: Tina Yap

Style • Urban Living

pop culture • entertainment • recreation

Super 1



wake up!

G Tongi
sets up
bartending school2005
bodies
on the beachHow to deal
with vacation-
deficit disorderMakati New Year
Countdown
done in song!Produced by TSN MP
Photography:
SANDY AMARAL
Cover Story
SANDY PINE
In Review

2005

THINGS WE WANT TO SEE
MORE OF IN 2005

- 0 SONGS FROM YOUNG
- 1 NEW BOOK BY MELANIE MARQUEZ
- 2 NEW MTV KIDS WHO WILL ACTUALLY LAST
- 6 ARTISTS WHO DO COMMERCIALS FOR COMPUTER SCHOOLS AND ARE ACTUALLY ENROLLED IN THEM
- 10 FILMS FROM BRILLIANT DIRECTORS LIKE QUINN BECKWELL, MARK MEYER, RAYMOND RED AND LAW DIAZ
- 22 BOOKS LESS AND TIME FROM ADDICTING DJ DAVE SLASH CRASH & DELANDR COPYCATS
- 30 MORE ARTISTS WHO WRITE THEIR OWN SONGS
- 50 MORE MEGAMALL ART GALLERIES THAT SHOWCASE AWESOME STUFF FROM YOUNG EMERGING ARTISTS
- 77 MORE "GET CLOSE TO GOD" STICKERS
- 96 MORE FÊTE DE LA MUSIQUE AROUND THE COUNTRY
- 101 NEW SONGS FROM SOKAFREE, RADIOACTIVE SAGO, PRODIGY AND BRIDGE
- 145 LITERAL PILLS FOR THE MYTHOS
- 189 MORE ACHILLE SIMPSON SLIP-UPS (MORE OF THE JACKET JACKSON DOES THIS)
- 250 MORE PEOPLE LIKE CHERIE GAL, WHO SURVIVED THE TSUNAMI AND LIVED TO TELL THE STORY TO SERVE AS AN INSPIRATION TO THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY
- 9000 MORE SUPER ISSUES

2005





A kiss on the lips

This Jan. 1 Syndrome brings this influx of dreams and hopes...from "New Me's" that end up as "Old Me's"

By Pepe Diakou and James Gabillo

A BOOK with the premise we all come from aliens says that our world as we know it will end in 2021. Whooaaaaa—there's 36 years from now!

The book says that our whole species is sent on a time fusion, jumping down in the last second. And it has cycles. Each cycle ends with this catastrophic event like the one ago. The cycle we're in right now will end in 2021. Who knew. It could be a massive tsunami.

The impending death of the world is something we're all waiting for. And we're obsessed with it. Because we're all obsessed with time.

Children are marked with dots of hair and

children looking at your car doors. Dec. 31 is marked with a big dinner at midnight and loads of severed fingers. We go through all this going and trouble for the sake of time.

We all love the Jan. 1 as death because it gives us a sense that we have all the time in the world to do whatever—that's why we have our resolutions and that's why we start going to the gym in January.

This Jan. 1 Syndrome brings this influx of dreams and hopes that get washed up by time. There are a gazillion to do's that never get done, and even more "New Me's" that end up as "Old Me's."

Whatever happens within the year, though, there's one thing that's a guarantee—that we all end up the same by Dec. 31. We all end up as people longing for more, people who want something different.

The New Year is actually a depressing thing

to celebrate. Considering how many careers died this year, who'd want to welcome another 365 days of this and miseries?

Now we're not (bad) but as anything, but after two weeks of extreme meditation while getting our feet rubbed, we think we have an answer.

Yes, life is full of crap. But yes, life isn't about crap.

The best film of 2004, "Dumb and Dumber," tells us that every so often, when we close our two deer eyes that, we realize the oldest most impossible action—and we pass them off not as multifarious mysteries but as authentic events that have actually taken place.

Like, when you all of a sudden wake up on a nice comfortable bed in the middle of a deserted island. And you say to yourself, "This can't be me." You find yourself in this big black hole.

But does matter, your eyes weren't closed in the first place. Everything's actually happening in your deer great life but you just can't accept all the alterations.

Life is waking up one day on a bed of rose petals. It's living inside for years in the middle of December. It's finding and you're miserable. It's saying, "This can't be me," but realizing it is.

Yes, life can be one big black hole most of the time, but again, it isn't about that. If we worried too much about the hole, we'd never see through it. And thinking of it is never gonna make it disappear.

Life is about the "New Me"—and who cares if it ever gets old? (And it will.) Because there will always be a "New Me."

New Year might be a reminder of everything we'll never do, but it's a kiss on the lips that says something good's in store.

Sing along with this...

Photography by James Gabrilo
Words by Rebecca

WHAT: The Makati New Year's Eve Countdown Party
HOW: Smells Like Teen Spirit



LOAD up on gin



Bring your friend



It's a celebration



And you're not



She's a friend



Most loved



Have I seen



A day or two



Make it 100



With the lights out it's too dangerous



We're on our own



Entertain us



I had night and contagious



There we are now



Entertain us



A candy



All about



A message



My choice



The



For you at what I do best



And for this gift I hearted



Our time group has always been



And always will continue to



Make it 100



And I hope



Just what it takes



And you I guess I make one smile



I found it hard



It's hard to find



Oh well, whatever, come on out



Make it 100

